

CANADIAN PATRIOTIC FUND ASSOCIATION.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE, TORONTO,

20th January, 1900.

SIR,—

As you are doubtless aware, His Excellency the Governor General has been pleased to organize a Canadian Patriotic Fund Association; and Her Majesty the Queen has been graciously pleased to be Patron of the Association.

The Association has been formed by His Excellency for the following purposes :—

1. For the benefit of the widows, orphans, and other dependents of officers and men of the military force of Canada who may unfortunately lose their lives in, or in connection with, the war operations in South Africa.
2. For the benefit of the soldiers themselves or others (whether combatant or non-combatant) on duty in South Africa with the authority of the Government of Canada, and their families or dependents, who may have been disabled by wounds, sickness, etc.
3. For the benefit of the wives and children and dependents separated at home from the men serving in South Africa.

His Excellency is the President of the Association, and has requested me to act as one of the Vice Presidents, and to promote the objects of the Association in Ontario as I may be able.

I desire to invite the co-operation of the Wardens of Counties, the Mayors of Cities and Towns, and the Clergy, in order that they may use such means as may occur to them as most feasible in their respective localities, such as public meetings, municipal grants, general subscription lists, house to house collections, or otherwise, so as to ensure that every citizen of the Dominion may have an opportunity of manifesting his interest in the Fund by contributing an amount however small, in aid of its objects.

It is not intended that local Associations for collecting money, etc., for similar objects should be interfered with, but at the same time it is hoped that they will be encouraged to support a central organization such as this Association, by which an equitable and liberal application of the funds at its command may be made to all cases of distress irrespective of locality.

I respectfully request you at the approaching meeting of your County Council to bring the subject before the Council, and to have such action taken forthwith as may seem to you best adapted to promote the objects in view.

It is I believe intended that there shall be a (probably small) Provincial Executive Committee, appointed to advise and assist in promoting the objects in view throughout the Province. So far, as I understand, the method of selecting this Committee, or any further particulars in relation thereto, have not yet been determined by the Association.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,



Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Ontario.